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SIPDIS

STATE FOR IO/T MATTHEW GOLDSTEIN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/07/2019 TAGS: <u>AORC KNNP IAEA PREL RP</u>

SUBJECT: PHILIPPINES WILL SUPPORT JAPANESE CANDIDATE AMANO

FOR DIRECTOR GENERAL IAEA

REF: STATE 46302

Classified By: A/Political Counselor Mario Fernandez, reasons  $1.4\ \mathrm{b}$  and d.

11. (C) Post discussed reftel points with Director Leah Ruiz of the Office of United Nations and International Organizations (UNIO) of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) to urge the Philippines to vote for Ambassador Yukiya Amano of Japan for Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency. Although the Philippines supported South Africa's Abdul Minty in the first round of voting, Director Ruiz said that the Philippines will support Amano in the second round. She added that the Philippine government has conveyed this information to the Japanese government. Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI) Director Alumanda Dela Rosa confirmed her agency's support for Ambassador Amano in a letter they sent to DFA, outlining the technical assistance and funding Japan provides to PNRI.

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